

POLICY

It is the policy of the Michigan Department of Human Services Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ) that youth attire and appearance will promote a positive self-image and reflection on the facility.

PURPOSE

This policy ensures that BJJ facilities have guidelines for appropriate clothing and appearance for youths.

DEFINITIONS

See JRG, JJ Residential Glossary.

**RESPONSIBLE
STAFF**

Designated in the facility standard operating procedure.

PROCEDURE

Each facility is required to develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) that govern youth attire and appearance. At a minimum, these SOPs must contain the following requirements:

**Clothing
Guidelines for All
Programs**

Underwear must be worn. Girls must wear bras.

Clothing is worn in such a way that a youth's undergarments are not exposed.

Pants are worn at the waist level with shirts tucked in unless designed to be worn on the outside.

Clothing is laundered frequently enough to provide youth with clean underwear and socks on a daily basis and clean clothing at least three (3) times per week.

Youth must not wear any unapproved head coverings.

When not in their rooms, youths are fully dressed except when showering.

**Facilities &
Programs Utilizing
Uniforms**

Youths wear clothing and footwear issued by the facility.

Youths are issued a minimum of two (2) sets of clothing.

Clothes are not altered in any manner.

**Facilities &
Programs Not
Utilizing Uniforms**

Youths may wear personal clothing if:

- It is clean and in good repair.
- It does not depict or promote gang activity, illegal activity, violence, nudity, profanity, alcohol, smoking, drugs, sexually explicit, sexually suggestive, or anything that is inflammatory.
- It does not mimic or represent street gang attire.
- It does not present a safety or security concern.
- It fits properly.
- The facility/center director or designee may approve the wearing of dress clothes and shoes for special events such as court, off-site church attendance, graduation, etc.

**Appearance
Guidelines for all
Programs**

Youths' hair is clean and combed at all times.

Youths' hair (including eyebrows) does not display lettering, signs or symbols.

Youths are clean-shaven unless approved by the facility/center director or designee.

Youths may not wear jewelry.

Youths may not get tattoos while in the facility.

**Exceptions to
Attire/Appearance
Guidelines**

Exceptions to this policy based upon the youth's religion is granted unless there is a clear safety and/or security concern and the restriction is the only means to satisfy that concern.

AUTHORITY

Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 USC 2000cc, et seq.

Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.115a(1)(l)

Child Caring Institutions Rules, R400.4168